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(*c*) The prisoners are allowed to obtain tobacco at their own cost and also from their friends and relatives. Tobacco is given to certain prisoners at Government cost also on certain occasions.

(*d*) Prisoners working in the Textile Factory of the Central Jail, Coimbatore, and in the Carpentry and Handloom Weaving Sections in the Central Jail, Vellore, are allowed 1/6 oz. of tobacco per head per day as an incentive to better work. Prisoners from the Central Jail, Madras, who are employed in the Government Bus Service Depot and whose outturn of work comes up to the prescribed standard are given one anna worth of tobacco or betel daily.

(*e*) Prisoners are allowed to use soap, hair oil and unction oil and tooth powder at their own cost. Condemned prisoners are allowed at their request betelnuts, and tobacco in the form of cigarettes, beedies and snuff provided there is no medical objection.

Maniamkaram and Thiruppuvaram

* 664 *Q*.—Sri T. S. RAMASWAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the Damodaran Asan Committee Report on on Maniamkaram and Thiruppuvaram and have taken any decisions on the recommendations of that Committee which was set up by the former Travancore-Cochin Government;

(*b*) whether the Kerala Government have written to the Madras Government on the question of abolition of Maniamkaram and Thiruppuvaram in 1957 and 1958; if so, the details thereof;

(*c*) whether the Government have considered the Bills for abolition of Maniamkaram brought before the Kerala Assembly; and

(*d*) the total arrears of Maniamkaram and Thiruppuvaram up to date to be realized from the Kanyakumari district?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) The question of abolishing " Maniamkaram " is engaging the attention of the Government. In that connection, all papers connected with " Maniamkaram " including the report of the Damodaran Asan Committee, are being perused.

(*b*) Regarding the rent due to Sri Padmanabhaswami temple on Sri Pandaravagai lands, certain proposals were received from the Kerala Government in December 1956. They were examined by this Government and the proposals of this Government have been communicated to the Kerala Government and they have been requested to state their decision and the decision of the temple authorities thereon. The Kerala Government's reply has not yet been received. The question of abolishing Thiruppuvaram is under the consideration of this Government.

(*c*) The Kerala Government have stated that no Bills for the abolition of Maniamkaram have been brought before the Kerala Assembly.

(*d*) The arrear balance and the current balance as on 30th November 1960 relating to both " rent due to the temple on Sri Pandaravagai lands " and " Thiruppuvaram " are Rs. 4,12,229·68 and Rs. 39,614·57 respectively. Separate figures for Maniamkaram and Thiruppuvaram are not available. Rent in kind has been reduced to money value.

SRI T. S. RAMASWAMI : In view of the mounting up of arrears on the heads of poor ryots, may I know whether the Government will take immediate steps to abolish it?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir, we are also anxious to do the needful reform and we shall expedite it as soon as possible.

Master Plan (Cities and Townships)

MR. SPEAKER : As the hon. Member, who gave notice of question No. 665 is not in his seat, the question and answer will be printed in the proceedings.

* 665 *Q.*—SRI K. SATTANATHA KARAYALAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to have a Master Plan for Madras, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore and for the various Townships in the State; and

(*b*) the nature of assistance received from the Centre?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) No assistance has been received so far from the Centre.

S.S.L.C. Examination Fee

* 666 *Q.*—SRI T. T. DANIEL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the students from the Madras City appearing for the S.S.L.C. examination can remit the examination fee by postal orders;

(*b*) whether this concession is proposed to be extended to mufassal students; and

(*c*) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) *to* (*c*) Till 1957, the examination fees from *private* candidates appearing for various Government examinations, from the City of Madras, were remitted into the Reserve Bank of India. As the Reserve Bank expressed its inability to receive small amounts over the bank's counter, it was ordered in 1957, that private candidates from the city may remit their examination fees in the shape of postal orders. As no special difficulty is experienced by the treasuries in the mufassal in receiving the remittances, from the private students, it is not proposed to extend the scope of the orders to such students outside Madras City.